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development and opening up of South Africa and tells us, that in the near future, South Africa alone will cause a considerable increase in the world's annual output of gold.

S. M. LINDSAY.

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*Essays on Questions of the Day, Political and Social.* By GOLDWIN SMITH, D. C. L. Pp. vii, 360. Price, \$2.25. New York: Macmillan & Co., 1893.

*Orations and Addresses of George William Curtis.* Edited by CHARLES ELIOT NORTON. Vol. I: *On the Principles and Character of American Institutions, and the Duties of American Citizens, 1856-1891.* Pp. vii, 498. Vol. II: *Addresses and Reports on the Reform of the Civil Service of the United States.* Pp. vii, 527. Vol. III: *Historical and Memorial Addresses,* with portrait. Pp. vi, 406. Price, \$3.50 per vol. New York: Harper & Bro., 1894.

The reader of Dr. Smith's essays will lay the volume down at the close in a curiously confused condition of mind. He will feel as if he had been rapidly and rudely revolved about between the positive and negative poles of a powerful dynamo. Whether to be angry at the exasperating virulence and oftentimes petulance of the author's criticisms and the inconclusiveness of his observations, and astounded at his suggestion of civil war as the proper preventive of the achievement of Home Rule for Ireland, such as we find in his essays on "The Political Crisis in England," "Woman Suffrage," and "The Irish Question;" or to be filled with enthusiastic admiration at his calm and comprehensive treatment, splendid in style and cogent in argument, of other burning questions, as "Social and Industrial Revolution," "The Question of Disestablishment," "The Jewish Question," and "The Empire," and his strenuous endeavor throughout all of these essays to state fairly the premises from which he draws his conclusions: all these things place one in a quandary of conflicting judgments and feelings. But the rapid alternating currents, intellectual and emotional, will generate a good deal of vigorous thought, whether it be to understand and to agree with or to understand and to disprove his reasonings and predictions.

The judgment of the reader concerning the volume will be determined in most part by his predilections respecting the attitude of organized society toward the social, political and industrial movements of our day. If he "be a liberal of the old school as yet unconverted to State socialism who looks for further improvement not to an increase of the authority of government, but to the same agencies, moral, intellectual and economical, which have brought us thus far;" who expects gradual betterment of social condition and not "regeneration" of man, these essays will body forth his views most admirably; and

Dr. Smith will have appeared to have handled his facts fairly and adequately and drawn his conclusions rightly. If, however, the reader be an enthusiastic reformer, anxious for and expecting great things from governmental interference and participation in the affairs of men, he will be thought sadly lacking in sobriety of tone, in adequacy of treatment, in correctness of statement of representative facts and deductions from them, and most of all, in sympathy for the suffering millions.

One thing will be readily perceived in reading these essays, and that is the very practical, matter-of-fact turn of Dr. Smith's mind. He is usually spoken of as a brilliant writer and essayist, and surely if this much-abused adjective can be applied to any living writer it is applicable to him; but with Macaulay and writers of that ilk in mind, it is not usual to associate particular fondness for the hard, obstreperous facts of life and great attention to the significance of details which really characterize our profound students and thinkers who see the nature and bearings of their subjects, with brilliancy of literary style. Yet he is a keen and painstaking observer; and these pages bristle with facts taken from many years of observation in England and America of the events of the last half century, or culled from his extensive historical researches and reading.

In "Social and Industrial Revolution" the objects of the leading plans proposed by social reformers for bettering the social and industrial condition of mankind are passed in review. Communism, Socialism, nationalization of land, strikes, plans for freeing labor from capital, as in co-operation and schemes for the manipulation of the currency and the banks, are briefly set forth, and their necessary limitations and general impracticability shown in a manner that will convince the majority, if not all, who read the essay. In discussing Land Nationalization, he asks a very pertinent question—Why is land alone singled out for confiscation? All articles of commerce, raw materials especially, have been given to us by a beneficent Deity and are affected in their value by the shifting of population just as much as land. Why not apply the single tax to everything, or nationalize all things and thus prevent the iniquitous appropriation by the individual? "Looking Backward" comes in for an extended and searching criticism, and is left in rather a bad plight. In a substantial appendix we have the results of his personal visit to the Oneida communistic society and inspection of the practical workings of this noted experiment.

Upon the much mooted question of the present, Woman Suffrage, we have the most strenuous opposition to their enfranchisement. His arguments are the time-worn ones: man is the stronger vessel; the deplorable state of affairs if, as of course they will, husbands should

profess different political views from their wives; the best women and the majority of women do not wish to exercise the right of suffrage; in a word, it never has been, *ergo, non sit*. Dr. Smith takes up the various arguments of Mill's famous polemic and attempts to refute them in some detail with more or less success. But he fails notably, it appears to us, in his effort to show that from the point of view of abstract right women do not possess as good a claim to suffrage as men. To say that many do not want it is no answer to those who do want it. Because other people are willing to be imposed upon or deprived of their rights is no reason or justification for my being prevented from enjoying my rights.

Upon this question it is interesting to compare the views of the late Mr. Curtis, given us in these three handsomely bound and printed octavos, in which the Messrs. Harper have preserved the records of the noble activity of one who was so long and honorably connected with their house. Two addresses are on "Fair Play for Women" and "The Higher Education of Women." We find unqualified admission of their right to the suffrage, constant advocacy of their complete and immediate enfranchisement and earnest pleas for their highest education. Comparing men and women of all sorts and conditions, point by point, masculine capacity, physical, intellectual and moral, with feminine, contrasting in many ways the claims of each, he shows beyond a shadow of a doubt that women have just as good a right to exercise and enjoy political prerogatives and rights as have their dominating brothers.

In the second volume of "Addresses" we have perhaps the best record extant of the growth of the movement for the reform of the Civil Service in this country, if indeed there is a continuous record of any sort presenting a comprehensive view of the history of the reform. It opens with his address on "Civil Service Reform" in New York City in 1869 and closes with the eleventh address given by him as President of the National Civil Service Reform League at its meeting in Baltimore in April of 1892, on "Party and Patronage," a few months before his death. (The note of the editor to the effect that Mr. Curtis' health prevented his delivering the latter is incorrect, as the writer had the privilege and pleasure of hearing him give it *viva voce*.) Besides these there is the report made to President Grant in December, 1871, by the Civil Service Commission, of which Mr. Curtis was the chairman, upon the need of reform, the rules and regulations for the Civil Service proposed by the Commission and adopted by the President together with a second report made in April, 1872, suggesting further rules which were likewise adopted. It was this Commission which Congress in the winter of 1875 ignominiously refused to

continue in power by declining to vote the requisite appropriation for its maintenance; a proceeding which we saw dangerously near repeated during the past session of Congress, the House in Committee of the Whole on Appropriation voting to strike out the usual allowance, but the House in Open Session restoring it—both of which were indicative more of partisan pusillanimity than of anything more reputable.

There is a constant, ever deepening and enduring inspiration to the reader as he courses through these records of a life nobly given up to the arduous labor of promoting civic purity and uprightness in our national affairs and communal life. It does not so much matter that these addresses do not have a minuteness and an elaborateness of treatment befitting scientific essays and monographs; or that in some of them, especially those of his younger days, we perceive a slight haziness and evasive generality in statement that makes us feel that he was not quite sure of himself, that he would not have been able to hold his own against a doughty dialectician; but it does matter greatly that as we read we are inspired and quickened and lifted up into "an ampler ether, a diviner air," by the splendor of the discourse and the sincerity of the writer; that we are shown by deeds and brave outspoken words that it is the imperative duty of scholarly men and those in high position to enter actively into the political life of their nation and community and to give their best toward promoting and preserving high civic ideals in politics and public office, even though they may suffer "the whips and scorns of time."

*Philadelphia.*

FRANK I. HERRIOTT.

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*Cases on Constitutional Law.* By JAMES BRADLEY THAYER, LL. D. Parts I and II. Pp. xx, 944. Price, \$6.00. Cambridge, Mass.: C. W. Sever, 1894.

Although this is a work designed primarily for law students, still it is one which deserves to find wide acceptance and use wherever the constitutional history and constitutional law of the United States are taught, since its subject-matter is of fully as much importance to the student of history as to the student of law. The treatises of Cooley, Hare, Story and others find here just that supplementary and illustrative material needed in order to afford exact and complete knowledge. Much, perhaps too much, stress is sometimes laid upon the study of sources, but whatever may be its limitations in other directions, it certainly forms a very essential part of the study of American constitutional law; without a familiarity with the "cases," one must almost necessarily be frequently led astray. Nor will it suffice, as the slips of some of the most learned writers bear witness, to rely upon the head-notes of reports—the cases themselves must be read, and read with